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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Sheet 1 of 1**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/564,170 ✓
Filing Date	January 10, 2006
First Named Inventor	Volker Krink, et al
Art Unit	TBD
Examiner Name	TBD
Attorney Docket Number	51034.0000

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Patent or Publication Number	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Applicant	Class	Subclass
	6,232,575	5/15/2001	Oakley, Thomas F., et al	219	121.55
	6,359,251	3/19/2002	Picard, Tate S., et al	219	121.57

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Foreign Patent Document No.	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Applicant	Country
	10263827	10/6/1998	Yashuiro, Asami	JAPAN
	EP 0 697 935	4/21/1999	Couch, R., et al	EUROPE
	DE 195 36 150 C2		Weizel, G., et al	GERMANY
	Description: A means and method are provided for gas control of a plasma torch. Gas flow is set by an arrangement consisting of a proportional valve, a pressure sensor and a shield in the plasma torch.			
	DD 55437			GERMANY
	Description: The document relates to a method for mixing a working gas and an additional gas in plasma cutting with high exit speed of the plasma jet. In front of a gas discharge chamber, a pressure drop is produced by a pressure shield. This does not solve the problem that gas mixtures cannot be reproducibly generated because the mixing ratio is very restricted.			
	DD 132247		Fronlich, H.	GERMANY
	Description: A method is disclosed for mixing of gases. For example, for plasma cutting and using hypersonic nozzles. However, varying optimum mixing ratios required cannot be produced.			
	DE 201 21 641.8	3/20/2003		GERMANY
	Description: A method is provided for supplying a plasma torch with a gas, mixed gas, or gas mixture in which the volume flow of the gas, mixed gas, or gas mixture is controlled. An arrangement is provided for supplying a plasma torch with a gas or mixed gas or gas mixture to the plasma torch and a volume flow control means controls the volume flow of the gas or mixed gas or gas mixture. However, the use of volume flow control alone does not allow for adequate quality of cutting, and can lead to unreliable piercing of the material to be cut, the formation of dross, and major deviations in angle that exceed allowable tolerances.			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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